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Moya Kinnealey Moya Kinnealey  
Printed name of person mailing correspondence Signature of person mailing correspondence

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Michael R. Hayden et al. Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned  
Serial No.: 09/526,193 Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
Filed: March 15, 2000  
Title: METHODS AND REAGENTS FOR MODULATING CHOLESTEROL LEVELS

Assistant Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, kindly replace the current claims with the following new claims 87-111, without prejudice.

~~87. A method for determining whether candidate compound modulates ABC1 biological activity, said method comprising the steps of:~~

- ~~(a) providing an ABC1 polypeptide capable of binding a lipid;~~
- ~~(b) contacting said ABC1 polypeptide with said lipid and said candidate compound; and~~
- ~~(c) measuring binding of said lipid to said ABC1 polypeptide, wherein binding of said lipid to said ABC1 polypeptide indicates that said candidate compound modulates ABC1 biological activity.~~

~~88. A method for determining whether candidate compound modulates ABC1 biological activity, said method comprising the steps of:~~